

Message Text

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46

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 IO-11 SAM-01 SAB-01 SSM-05 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 /085 W

----- 010915

R 021528Z FEB 76

FM AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6119

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

UNCLAS DAMASCUS 586

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, SY, UN, US

SUBJ: SYRIAN CIRITICISM OF US VETO TRAILS OFF

1. SYRIAN PRESS HAS BEGUN TO SHIFT ATTENTION FROM
CRITICIZING US VETO IN SECURITY COUNCIL TO OTHER
CONCERNS. PRESS LAST COUPLE DAYS HAS, HOWEVER, REFERRED TO
FOREIGN CONDEMNATION OF VETO, CITING VIETNAM,
ROMANIA AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA AND HAS ALSO
ASSERTED THAT U.S. HAS INITIATED CAMPAIGN OF
"THREATS AND PRESSURE" AGAINST STATES WHICH "STOOD
UP FOR ARAB RIGHTS" DURING SC SESSION.

2. PRESS PRINTED STATEMENT BY PLO EXCOMM MEMBER
ABU MAYZAR PRAISING SYRIAN ROLE AT SC AND CONDEMMING
EGYPTIAN POSITON (TEXT IN FBIS).

3. AL-BAATH COLUMNIST HAS DRAWN DISTINCTION BETWEEN
WHAT HE VIEWS / "INCONSISTENCY" BETWEEN U.S.
PROMOTION OF ITS PEACEFUL INTENTIONS IN ME AND
REALITY OF SC VETO FOLLOWED BY ASSURANCES OF SUPPORT
FRO ISRAEL DURING PRIMIN RABIN'S TALKS IN WASHINGTON.
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4. COMMENT. PREDICTABILITY OF OUR VETO, COUPLED WITH OUR
EXPLANATION OF VOTE AND COINCIDENCE OF SC CONCLUSION
WITH SYRIAN SUCCESS IN MEDIATING LEBANESE CRISIS HAVE
ALL COMBINED TO MOVE SYRIAN COMMENTARY ABOUT OUR VETO
INTO LOWER KEY.
MURPHY

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NNN

Message Attributes

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